



TRANSMITTAL LETTER
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.
14846

In Re Application Of: Olin Calvin, et al.

Serial No.
09/923,562

Filing Date
August 9, 2001

Examiner
Donald H. Heckenberg

Group Art Unit
1722

Title: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR HANDLING LENS CARRIERS**

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

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Transmitted herewith is:

Response to Restriction Requirement

in the above identified application.

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
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Dated: **October 2, 2003**

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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Olin Calvin, et al.

Examiner: Donald H. Heckenberg

Serial No: 09/923,562

Art Unit: 1722

Filed: August 9, 2001

Docket: 14846 (VTN-551)

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
HANDLING LENS CARRIERS

Dated: October 2, 2003

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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Sir:

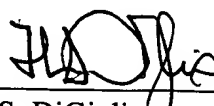
Pursuant to the Restriction Requirement imposed in the Official Action dated September 2, 2003, applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group III, i.e., Claims 7-19 for continued prosecution herein.

Claims 1-26 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, the Official Action avers that the following inventions are present in the claims:

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Dated: October 2, 2003


Frank S. DiGiglio

Group I, Claims 1-3, drawn to a curing station, classified in class 425, subclass 174.4;

Group II, Claims 4-6, drawn to a method of moving contact lens carriers, classified in class 414, subclass 800;

Group III, Claims 7-19, drawn to an article handling apparatus, classified in class 414, subclass 222.01;

Group IV, Claims 20-23, drawn to a contact lens holding station, classified in class 414, subclass 798.2; and

Group V, Claims 24-26, drawn to a method for holding contact lens carriers in a station, classified in class 414, subclass 801.

It is the Examiner's position that the inventions listed as Groups I, II, III, IV and V are distinct from each other.

In response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the subject matter of Group III, Claims 7-19. However, applicants reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims in this application.

In view of the foregoing, an examination on the merits of the elected claims, at an early date, is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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